

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS**

301 State House
(317) 232-9855

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6262

BILL NUMBER: HB 2086

DATE PREPARED: Mar 8, 2001

BILL AMENDED: Feb 21, 2001

SUBJECT: Volunteer Advocates Pilot Program.

FISCAL ANALYST: Kathy Norris

PHONE NUMBER: 234-1360

FUNDS AFFECTED: X

**GENERAL
DEDICATED
FEDERAL**

IMPACT: State

Summary of Legislation: (Amended) This bill requires the Office of the Secretary of Family and Social Services to choose nine counties to develop a pilot program to recruit and train volunteers to serve as advocates for individuals with developmental disabilities who are involved in or at risk of becoming involved in the Indiana criminal justice system as suspects or defendants or who are otherwise endangered and have no parent or legal guardian. The bill requires the Office to contract with a private individual or organization to provide training to the counties chosen to participate. (The introduced version of this bill was prepared by the Indiana Commission on Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities.)

Effective Date: July 1, 2001.

Explanation of State Expenditures: (Revised) This bill requires the Office of the Secretary of Family and Social Services Administration (FSSA) to conduct training for and implement a volunteer advocate program in nine counties. The bill specifies local agencies that must participate in the establishment of the program.

Program development and training costs have been estimated by FSSA to be approximately \$100,000 each year for the nine county pilot programs. These costs are above the current level of funding available to the Office.

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures:

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: Family and Social Services Administration, Division of Disability, Aging, and Rehabilitative Services.

Local Agencies Affected: Local Law Enforcement Agencies, Local Courts.

Information Sources: Susan Preble, Legislative Liaison to FSSA, (317)-232-1149.